

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application 2003/0001890 of *Brin* ("*Brin*").

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose a rich media environment as claimed in amended claim 1. A rich media environment as claimed in amended claim 1 includes a set of sensing components for covering more than one individual present in the rich media environment. In contrast, *Brin* discloses a user terminal 100 that includes a keyboard and mouse for interaction with a single user present at the user terminal 100. (*Brin*, Fig. 1 and paragraph 0005). It is submitted that a user terminal 100 as taught by *Brin* does not include sensing components for covering more than one individual present at the user terminal 100 as does a rich media environment as claimed in amended claim 1.

Applicant also submits that the world view 700 disclosed in *Brin* is a window rendered on a display device (*Brin*, paragraph 0082, lines 1-5, paragraph 120, lines 12-16) rather than a rich media environment having an arrangement of sensing and rendering components for covering multiple individuals present in the rich media environment as claimed in amended claim 1. Applicant further submits that the elements 320 in the world view 700 of *Brin* are not individuals present in a rich media environment as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, the elements 320 of *Brin* are a software emulation of conversation characteristics of individual users of the user terminals 100. (*Brin*, paragraph 0083, lines 1-2, and paragraphs 0084 and 0087).

It is also submitted that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose detecting multiple communication interactions among a set of individuals

present in rich media environments as claimed in amended claim 1. Rather than detect communication interactions among individuals present in rich media environments as claimed in amended claim 1, *Brin* teaches that a user of the user terminal 100 forms an interaction in a conversation display space 300 rendered on the user terminal 100 by manipulating a software orientation control 350 (*Brin*, Fig. 3A and paragraph 0087) in a software user space 320 rendered on the user terminal 100. (*Brin*, paragraph 0082). It is submitted that a manipulation of an orientation control 350 rendered on a terminal 100 as taught by *Brin* does not anticipate detecting communication interactions among individuals present in rich media environments as claimed in amended claim 1.

It is further submitted that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by *Brin* because *Brin* does not disclose capturing a set of media data from the sensing components for each of a set of interest threads and combining the captured media data in response to the activities of individuals within the rich media environments as claimed in amended claim 1. Rather than respond to activities of individuals within rich media environments as claimed in amended claim 1, *Brin* teaches responding to a software orientation control 350 (*Brin*, Fig. 3A and paragraph 0087) in a software user space 320 rendered on the user terminal 100. (*Brin*, paragraph 0082).

In addition, it is submitted that amended claims 22 and 34 are not anticipated by *Brin*. Amended claims 22 and 34 include limitations similar to the limitations of amended claim 1. Therefore, the remarks stated above with respect to amended claim 1 also apply to amended claims 22 and 34.

Given that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 depend from amended claims 1, 22, and 34, respectively, it follows that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 are not anticipated by *Brin*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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